



WALTHAM HOLY CROSS
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year ending December 31st, 1954

Waltham Holy Cross Urban District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1954:

Chairman : Councillor Mr. O. Edwards

Members :

Councillor : Mr. M. C. Barrett

„ Mr. E. W. Broe

„ Mrs. D. R. E. Dye

„ Mr. J. Halliday

„ Mr. K. W. Meekin

Chairman of Council *ex-officio* : Mr. T. C. Grove

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF :

Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. H. FRANKS, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector :

Mr. W. H. MEYNELL, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

*Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors'
Examination Joint Board.*

*Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute of Inspector of Meat
and Other Foods.*

Clerk :

Mrs. E. J. BIRD



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WALTHAM HOLY CROSS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Waltham Holy Cross Urban District Council*

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report, including the Sanitary Inspector's Report, for the year ending 31st December, 1954.

In the statistical tables which follow, births and deaths have been corrected for "inward" and "outward" transfers—i.e., they refer only to persons who normally reside in the District, and they include all births and deaths among them wherever occurring. They have also been adjusted to allow for any difference in the age and sex distribution of the local population when compared with the averages for England and Wales. Infectious diseases, however, are allocated to the district in which they arise irrespective of place of normal residence of the patient. All rates and figures include members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area.

Vital Statistics. There was no significant change in either the birth rate or the total death rate. Heart disease and cancer continue to account for the majority of deaths.

Infectious Diseases. (*See also Section F.*) Apart from a large, though mild, outbreak of dysentery in the early part of the year, there was very little infectious disease in the District. 32 notifications of dysentery were received during March, and the outbreak gradually declined during the following two to three months. Total notifications (for the year) were 71, of which 47 were confirmed by laboratory tests. All cases and contacts were followed up by the Sanitary Inspector with a view to limiting the spread of infection as far as possible.

The continued absence of diphtheria is particularly gratifying and no cases of poliomyelitis occurred during the year. There were no deaths from notifiable infectious disease.

One case of food poisoning was notified.

National Assistance Act, 1948. Two people were reported to be in need of care and attention, but their needs were dealt with in each case without having recourse to the above Act.

In concluding, I would again like to record my appreciation to the staff of the Public Health Department for their continued help and co-operation, and the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support during the year.

H. FRANKS, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in Acres	....	....	....	....	10,959
Civilian Population (mid 1954)			....	....	9,090
Number of inhabited houses			....	....	2,690
Rateable Value	....	....	....	....	£78,013
Sum represented by a penny rate			....	....	£315

The rate in the pound was 25s. 8d.

Vital Statistics.

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births : Legitimate	73	70	143
Illegitimate	2	0	2
		Total	<u>145</u>

	Waltham Holy Cross	Average for England & Wales
Corrected Birth rate per 1,000 of the population	.... 15.0	15.2

	Male	Female	Total
Still Births : Legitimate	.... 1	3	4
Illegitimate	.... 0	0	0

	Waltham Holy Cross	Average for England & Wales
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	.... 26.8	24.0

		Male	Female	Total
Deaths (all causes)	....	56	33	89
(Registrar General's Figures)				

		Waltham Holy Cross	Average for England & Wales
Corrected Death rate per 1,000 population	.... ....	10.2	11.3

Deaths of Infants under 1 year :

		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	4	5
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Total				5

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks old	3
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		Waltham Holy Cross	Average for England & Wales
Death rate of infants under 1 year (per 1,000 live births)		34.0	25.5
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under age 2 years		0	
Maternal Deaths (per 1,000 total births	.... ....	0	0.69

**Causes of Death as given by the Registrar General
for the Year 1954**

		Male	Female	Total
Cancer of lung and bronchus	....	6	0	6
Cancer (all other sites)	....	7	3	10
Coronary Disease and Angina	....	11	1	12
All other diseases of heart and circulation	.... ....	16	14	30
Tuberculosis	....	0	1	1
Pneumonia	....	2	4	6

Bronchitis	....	....	0	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	....	....	6	0	6
Influenza	....	....	0	0	0
Hyperplasia of Prostate	....	....	1	0	1
Congenital Malformations	....	....	0	0	0
Road accidents	....	....	2	0	2
Other accidents	....	....	1	2	3
Suicides	....	....	2	0	2
All other causes	....	....	2	7	9
			<hr/> 56	<hr/> 33	<hr/> 89
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Death Rates per Million of Population

	Waltham Holy Cross	Average for England & Wales
Cancer of lung and bronchus	649	369
Cancer (all other sites)	1101	1666
Tuberculosis of respiratory organs	110	160
Tuberculosis (all other sites)	0	19

SECTION B

General Provisions of the Health Services in the area

- (a) **Public Health Officers** of the Local Authority (see page 2).
- (b) **Laboratory Facilities.** A Ministry of Health Laboratory operates at St. Margaret's Hospital, Epping. Milk, water and ice cream samples are examined at the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.
- (c) **Ambulance Facilities.** Transport of the sick and injured and maternity cases is the responsibility of the Essex County Council and is free of charge.

In cases of accident or emergency, an ambulance is obtained by dialling 999 on any Waltham Cross telephone. Where there is no dialling system it is sufficient to lift the receiver and ask for an ambulance to be sent to the place required, or to deliver the message personally at the Fire Station, Romeland, Waltham Abbey. Calls of a non-urgent nature are only accepted from responsible persons in the service, e.g. doctors, nurses, etc.

- (d) **Hospitals.** The hospitals serving the area are administered by the North-East London Regional Hospital Board.

(e) **Child Welfare.** The Essex County Council (Forest Area) is the Welfare Authority for the district. Clinics are held at the following times at "The Cedars," Sewardstone Road, Waltham Abbey :—

Child Welfare Centre. Every Friday at 2 p.m.

School Children (minor ailments). 2nd and 4th Tuesday in each month at 10.0 a.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation. 2nd and 4th Tuesday in each month at 11.0 a.m. No charge is made.

Ante-Natal Clinic. 1st and 3rd. Monday in each month at 2 p.m.

Women's Welfare. Monday. By appointment only.

Dental Clinic. By appointment only.

Speech Therapist. By appointment only.

Eye Specialist. By appointment only.

Physiotherapist. By appointment only.

Upshire Village Hall (Weighing Centre). Alternate Thursdays at 3 p.m.

Day Nursery. The Day Nursery, which was held at "The Cedars," Sewardstone Road, Waltham Abbey, was closed on the 31st October, 1954.

(f) **School Health Service.** The Education Authority is the Essex County Council. School nurses inspect the children regularly, and there is a medical inspection at each school not less than once per year. Advice and treatment are provided at the Combined Treatment Centre at the appropriate sessions as listed above.

- (g) **Tuberculosis Service.** Tuberculosis Dispensary at Honey Lane Hospital, Waltham Abbey, every Monday at 2 p.m., for new patients.

During the year the Care Association for the area covering the Chigwell, Epping, Waltham Abbey and Ongar districts continued to function. The Association assists cases awaiting admission to sanatorium in various ways and arranges also for admission of child contacts to convalescent homes. It concerns itself also with the after care of patients by assistance in obtaining materials for occupational therapy and whenever possible, suitable employment for those fit to work. The Association is supported by voluntary contributions and receives also a grant from the County Council.

The Honorary Secretary is Mr. A. J. Edwards, 37 Woodland Road, Loughton.

- (h) **District Nurses', Health Visitors', Midwives' Services and Home Helps** are provided by the Essex County Council, and administered locally by the Forest Area Health Sub-Committee of the Council. The Area Medical Officer is Dr. F. G. Brown, M.B., B.CH., D.P.H. Municipal Offices, Woodford, E.18, from whom the following statistics have been received :—

Visits paid by Health Visitors.

1st Visits.			Re-Visits.		
Under 1 year	....	111	Under 1 year	....	390
1—5 years	....	1	1—5 years	....	599
All others	....	264			

Cases attended by Midwives.

(a)	As Midwives	30
(b)	As Maternity	19
					—
				Total	49
					—

Visits paid by Home Nurses	5321
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Attendances at Ante-Natal Clinics.

Ante-Natal	147
Post-Natal	3

Attendances at Child Welfare Clinics.

Infants under 1 year	....	....	....	1461
Children 1—5 years	....	....	....	447

Attendances at Women's Welfare Clinics.

Birth Control (1st visits)	....	....	....	24
„ (Re-visits)	....	....	....	102
				—
			Total	126
				—

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

(Sections C, D & E)

Introduction.

I have much pleasure in submitting my fifteenth Annual Report on the work carried out by the Department during 1954.

Progress in the Sanitary Administration of the Area has been maintained and many phases of public health have been dealt with in turn. However, the question of repair of houses in the centre of the Town has had, of necessity, to be held in abeyance whilst the housing survey was in progress.

The decontrol of meat came into effect on the 3rd July, 1954, and the slaughtering of animals received an immediate impetus, 17,528 animals being dealt with during the year and some 12 tons of meat surrendered as being unfit for human consumption. The question of assistance will have to be considered if this high figure of slaughter is maintained.

May I express my thanks to the Council, Members of the Public Health Committee, and all colleagues, for their co-operation and invaluable assistance during the year.

W. H. MEYNELL, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION C

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The number of inspections made during the year was 2,156 ; details regarding the nature of these inspections are given in the following tables.

The Department received 158 complaints covering a variety of subjects ; all were dealt with satisfactorily.

Summary.

Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health and Housing Acts)	160
Number of dwelling houses inspected for other than housing defects	122
Number of premises other than houses inspected	1922
Premises re-inspected	105
Visits to works in progress	141
Miscellaneous visits	66
	2516

Included in the above tables are the following classified visits :—

Bakehouses	8	Infectious Diseases	383
Camping Sites	54	Petroleum Acts	68
Cattle Market	48	Piggeries and	
Cooked Meat Factory	48	Knackers Yard	30
Dairies	26	Public Houses	60
Factories	62	Rats and Mice	40
General Market	48	Shops	210
Greyhound Kennels	10	Slaughterhouse	934
		Swimming Bath	3

Details of inspections of food premises and factories are given in the appropriate sections of the report.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

Number of dwelling houses inspected for defects (under the Public Health and Housing Acts)	160
Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in con- sequence of informal notices	47
Statutory notices served under the Public Health Act, 1936	6

Statutory notices were served in respect of three properties, Nos. 4, 5 and 6 Silver Street, Waltham Abbey, under Section 44 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The owner was requested to provide sanitary accommodation on a temporary basis to meet the needs of the tenants for an interim period of two years. The works were effected as requested.

Three Statutory notices were also served in respect of verminous persons and premises.

Disinfection.

Number of visits recleansing and disinfection after infectious disease	383
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The increase in the number of visits reported this year was due to an outbreak of Sonne Dysentery, and the consequent follow-up work involved.

Petroleum Acts and Orders.

Licences granted during 1954	34
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68 visits were made to ensure that the requirements of the Acts were being observed. Conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Systematic inspection of the area for the presence of rats and mice was carried out. Sewers were baited as required by the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries. Where premises were found to be infested, "block control" was operated.

Sewage farms, pumping stations, and all Local Authority premises were visited and action taken where necessary.

No charge is made for work effected at dwelling houses. However, all business premises treated are charged with the cost of the work carried out, and all such cost later recovered. It was necessary in one instance to take legal action, which resulted in the recovery of the cost of the work.

Requests for assistance were made where trouble was being caused by wasps nests. Fifteen such cases were dealt with effectually.

Works effected under the Act to the 31st December, 1954, are as follows :—

	TYPE OF PROPERTY.					Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3	Agri- cul- tural
	Local Authority	Non-Agricultural Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	All other (inc. Business Premises)				
Total No. of properties in Local Authority's District	18	2550	284		1852		162
No. of properties inspect- ed by Local Authority during 1954 as a result of							
(a) Notification	2	21	5		28		0
(b) Survey under Act ...	7	111	44		162		18
(c) Otherwise (when visited primarily for other purpose) ...	0	0	0		0		0
Total inspections ...	14	132	51		197		20
No.* of properties in- spected which were found to be infested by :							
(a) Rats (<i>Major</i>) ...	0	2	2		4		1
(<i>Minor</i>) ...	5	37	10		52		7
(b) Mice (<i>Major</i>) ...	0	0	0		0		0
(<i>Minor</i>) ...	1	6	4		11		0
No. of infested properties treated by Local Authority	5	40	1		46		2
Total treatments carried out, inc. re-treatments ...	6	40	10		56		2

Camping Sites.

No. of sites for which licences have been issued by the Local Authority	....	....	....	....	22
No. of licences issued to station caravans for limited periods	....	....	....	....	11
No. of campers during 1954 (approximately)	....				300

Of the sites licensed, only seven were in use during the year. On these sites, there were approximately seventy-three caravans, and with the addition of the eleven individual licences granted, there was a total of eighty-four caravans in the area.

The sites are provided with separate privy accommodation for the sexes ; an adequate supply of pure water ; and also covered receptacles for refuse.

The Council's caravan site at the junction of Woodredon Hill/Wood Green Road was opened in May 1954 with accommodation for 56 caravans.

Fifty-four visits were made to camping sites.

Smoke Abatement.

The Sewardstone area continues to be polluted at times with smoke and grit from the Eastern Electricity Board's Power Station at Brimsdown.

It was interesting to note that the use of Welsh Steam Coal in portable boilers, used for steam raising, was efficacious. No complaints were received from occupiers of the houses that were affected last year, and mentioned in last year's report.

The Local Authority's request to the Ministry of Fuel & Power to allow the use of this fuel has been justified.

Public Houses.

One further premises was brought up to standard during the year. There are now only four public houses in the area

which can be regarded as being below standard. The Brewers concerned have promised to remedy conditions as far as possible during 1955.

Sixty visits to licensed premises were made during the year.

Sewerage.

Several properties have been connected to the new sewer in the Mott Street/Sewardstone Road area during the year.

Tenders have been received and are being submitted to the Ministry for approval for the Luthers Area Scheme.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Collection is made weekly from all properties in the area by two modern S.D. vehicles.

Disposal is at a tip at Redrick's Lane in co-operation with the Epping Rural District Council.

Trade refuse is collected at a small charge.

Cesspools.

Cesspools are emptied quarterly by contract.

Roads.

Council maintained streets are scavenged and gullies emptied by direct labour.

Salvage.

Waste paper is collected and sold to a paper pulping firm.

Pig food is collected and processed by a local firm holding a contract with the Council.

Water Supply.

The district is within the Metropolitan Water Board's area of supply. There are outlying parts of the district which do not receive the benefit of this supply and depend solely on water from shallow wells.

At Claverhambury, the Clapton Stadium Limited supply their dwelling houses and kennels, together with an adjoining dairy farm, with water obtained from an artesian well. Samples of water obtained from wells in various parts of the district were favourably reported upon by the Analyst in each case.

The Metropolitan Water Board, in its report for 1954, gives details of methods adopted for the routine examination of employees for intestinal infections. The report stresses the meticulous care taken to ensure the accuracy of each examination, and the heavy strain placed upon laboratory facilities to obtain accurate information. The Board is to be congratulated upon this important aspect of its activities to ensure a pure and safe water supply.

SECTION D

Housing Statistics

Estates Administered by the Council.

Estate	Houses	Bungalows	Prefabs	Flats and Maisonettes	Total
Beechfield Walk and Lodge Lane	20	4	50		74
Beech Hill Gardens	16				16
Butler's Drive	16				16
Crooked Mile	4				4
Denny Avenue	62				62
Eastbrook Road	10				10
Farm Hill Road	2				2
Forest Close	10				10
Gladeway		12			12
Harold Estate	50				50
Paternoster Hill	80				80
Princesfield Estate....	160			50	210
Rounton Road		4			4
Tennyson Avenue	20				20
Upshire Road	36				36
	486	20	50	50	606
Requisitioned Units	15				
Beaulieu Hutments	13				28
GRAND TOTAL					634

The total number of families rehoused in Council accommodation during the year amounted to 91, (287 persons), made up as follows :—

New dwellings ....	....	....	....	....	....	51
Transfers ....	....	....	....	....	....	13
Re-lets ....	....	....	....	....	....	27

3 houses scheduled for demolition were cleared, the tenants being rehoused by the Council.

The total number of new dwellings completed during the year was 128, viz :—

Council Properties	....	....	....	....	....	51
Ministry of Supply	....	....	....	....	....	19
Private dwellings	....	....	....	....	....	58

Inspection of dwelling houses under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925, was as follows :—

1.	Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	....				52
2.	Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	....				47
3.	Number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to					
	(a) The serving of notices requiring the execution of works	....	....	....	....	Nil
	(b) The making of demolition or closing orders					5
4.	Number of notices served requiring the execution of works	....	....	....	....	Nil
5.	Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	....	....	....		Nil
6.	Number of demolition or closing orders made	....				2
7.	Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under subsection (3) of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936	....	....			Nil
8.	Number of houses demolished	....	....	....		3

The continuance of the decision of the Housing Committee to allocate only 8% of new houses to rehouse persons displaced as a result of demolition procedure has undoubtedly

had a retarding influence upon the application of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

I feel that it would be more realistic to deal with the rehousing of the persons concerned as a problem separated entirely from the Points Scheme and the Housing List.

The persons concerned are living in insanitary conditions, and it is surely wrong to allow such a state of affairs to continue when once the facts have been brought to the notice of the Public Health Committee.

Nos. 4, 5 and 6, Silver Street, Waltham Abbey, were considered for procedure under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, but because of the lack of houses to rehouse the tenants, the consideration of placing a demolition order on the premises was deferred for two years.

A preliminary survey of the older houses in the Town was commenced during the year, and was still proceeding as the year closed.

The Urban District Council's Engineer and Surveyor is Mr. George Clarke, A.R.I.C.S., M.I.Mun.E., and the Rehousing Officer is Mr. E. H. Entwisle, A.R.V.A., both of whom have made contributions to this Report.

SECTION E

Inspection of Food

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Dealers Licences were granted as follows :—

Tuberculin Tested milk	....	....	....	....	....	2
Sterilised milk	....	....	....	....	....	3
Pasteurised milk	....	....	....	....	....	5
Accredited milk	....	....	....	....	....	1

Supplementary Licences for the sale of milk were granted as follows :—

Tuberculin Tested milk	....	....	....	....	....	7
Sterilised milk	....	....	....	....	....	8
Pasteurised milk	....	....	....	....	....	7

26 visits were made to Dairies.

Essex County Council Act, 1933.

Ice Cream Regulations.

Number of persons registered as manufacturers

and Vendors 1

Number of persons registered as vendors 87

Meat and other Foods.

A cattle market and a general market are held on Tuesday of each week, where the sale of food is supervised.

The practice of washing and disinfecting vehicles conveying livestock to and from the market was effected during the year as required by the Transit of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1931.

All slaughtering was effected at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse, Sewardstone Street, Waltham Abbey, up until the 29th June, 1954.

The following animals were inspected during the year :—

315	Cows
1331	Steers, Heifers and Bulls
4722	Sheep and Lambs
1144	Calves
10016	Pigs
<hr/>	
17528	TOTAL
<hr/>	

The following were surrendered as being unfit for human consumption :—

23	Bovine carcasses
3	Calve carcasses
5	Sheep carcasses
49	Pig carcasses
219	Bovine livers
98	„ part livers
85	„ head and tongues
81	„ lungs
11	„ spleens
3	„ hearts
5	„ skirts
17	„ sets of offal
3	Calves heads
3	„ plucks
118	Pigs plucks
113	„ livers
55	„ heads
1	Leg Pork
1	Hand Pork
2	Shoulders Pork
1	Loin Pork
125	Sheep livers
11	„ plucks

2 Forequarters Beef
1 Hindquarter Beef
120 lbs. Miscellaneous Beef Trimmings

Total weight of meat thus surrendered :—

12 tons, 4 cwts., 3 quarters, 1 lb.

All meat surrendered during control was collected by Contractors authorised by the Ministry of Food. Since de-control, the arrangement has been continued between the firms concerned and the contractors.

The unfit meat is processed in steam digesters and the resulting products utilised in industry.

All other foods are rendered innocuous by boiling and used for pig food ; where this is not practicable, the articles are burnt.

It will be noticed that although there is an increase of 10,000 in the number of animals slaughtered in the area during 1954 as compared with 1953 ; the increase in the amount of meat found to be unfit is only approximately one ton.

In my opinion this fact is due to the greater care and discrimination shown by the butchers in purchasing animals for slaughter.

Centralised slaughtering came to an end on the 29th June, 1954. During the period of control 84,314 animals were slaughtered at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse, Waltham Abbey, and 221 tons, 5 cwts., 2 quarters, 2 lbs. of meat were surrendered as unfit for human consumption.

Four applications for licences to slaughter animals for human consumption were granted. One to the firm whose premises were used throughout for centralised slaughtering ; one to an old established butcher ; one upon the surrender of a knacker's yard licence upon the premises being brought up to standard for slaughter for human consumption ; and the

fourth for a new abattoir, with the approval of the Ministry of Food.

The latter premises has been working at fairly high pressure, primarily in the slaughter of pigs. Butchers in surrounding areas are supplied as also is the Smithfield Market.

The amount of work involved in the inspection of animals slaughtered is extremely heavy. Inspections have to be effected during the evenings on most nights of the week, and every Sunday—it being necessary to visit the premises several times on this particular day.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned:—

			Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	...	...	1331	315	1144	4722	10016
Number inspected		...	1331	315	1144	4722	10016
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :							
Whole carcases condemned			2	5	2	2	32
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned			120	160	2	136	236
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuber- culosis	...	...	9.16%	52.38%	.35%	2.92%	2.68%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :							
Whole carcases condemned			6	10	1	0	17
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned			108	120	1	0	55
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	...	...	8.56%	41.27%	.175%	0	.719%

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933-1954

Fourteen slaughtermen were licensed under the above Acts during 1954.

Food & Drugs Act, 1938

All premises where food is prepared, stored, or exposed for sale were inspected. The following articles were surrendered as being unfit for human consumption :—

1 tin apricots	1 tin lobster
4 lbs bacon	4 tins luncheon meat
2 tins beans	52 lbs ox cheeks
250 lbs beef (Hindquarter)	2 tins peas
10 lbs beef kidney and suet	1 tin plums
50 lbs beef skirts	2 tins pork luncheon meat
8 bovine heads	58 lbs manufacturing pork
3 lbs butter	12 lbs sausages
6½ lbs cheese	6½ lbs sausage meat
1 tin corn beef	24 sheeps heads
12 lbs figs	

Premises used for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food are required to be registered for that purpose with the Local Authority. There are nine premises registered for this purpose.

Foods are sampled by the Weights and Measures Officer of the Essex County Council, and he supplies me with reports thereon.

The following samples were reported upon during 1954 :—

Chocolate Milk (1)	Genuine	Malt Vinegar (1)	Genuine
Cooking (1)	„	Milks (17)	„
Foam Crystals		Olive Oil (1)	„
Lemon Flavour (1)	„	Shredded Beef Suet	„
Flour—Extra White (1)	„	Tea (1)	„
Flour—Self Raising (1)	„	Tomato Soup (1)	„
Lemonade Powder (1)	„		

Clean Food Byelaws.

All premises where food is kept are subject to an inspection with the Clean Food Byelaws kept in mind. Con-

ditions by and large were satisfactory. 210 visits were made to food premises.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

The Essex County Council deal principally with matters coming under this heading. I am informed that all samples taken for examination in the area were found to be satisfactory. In addition, 53 samples of milk and 57 samples of ice cream were submitted for examination. Samples are submitted to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, through the Essex County Council Bacteriological Service.

Two samples of ice cream submitted for examination contained faecal coli, in 3 out of 3 tubes in one of the samples, and 2 tubes out of 3 in the second sample. The latter sample was of loose ice cream, and as a result of this report the dealer voluntarily gave up the sale of loose ice cream. The first sample was prepacked ice cream and the commodity was manufactured in an adjoining area. Samples taken in that area also were reported upon as containing faecal coli. in 3 tubes out of 3 examined. As a result of subsequent inspections, the manufacturer has given up business.

Examination of ice cream samples is in accordance with the Ministry of Health's provisional grading system. Samples submitted were graded as follows :—

Grades.	Samples.
I	48
II	9
III	0
IV	0

Five samples of milk were submitted for biological examination to the Public Health Laboratory Service, County Hall, London, S.E.1. Negative reports were made in each case.

Samples of milk were submitted as follows :—

Accredited	4
Biological examination	5
Pasteurised	27
Raw	1
Tuberculin Tested	2
Tuberculin Tested/Pasteurised	19

Factories Act, 1937.

There are 55 factories on the register and 62 visits were made to the premises. Minor defects were found to exist in fifteen instances, and were remedied upon request. There are 11 outworkers in the area.

A number of inspections and recommendations have been made under Section 35, dealing with escape in case of fire.

W. H. MEYNELL, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
Sanitary Inspector.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

PART I OF THE ACT

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (inc. inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Inspections (4)	Number of		M/c line No. (7)
				Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	8	11	3	nil	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	47	51	12	nil	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	nil	nil	nil	nil	3
		—	—	—	—	—
		55	62	15	nil	—
		—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL						

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars	M/c line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Referred		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	M/c line No.
		Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector				
(1) Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	(2) 4	(3) 12	(4) 12	(5) nil	(6) nil	(7) nil	(8) 4		
(a) Insufficient	9	1	1	nil	1	nil	9		
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	2	2	nil	1	nil	10		
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	60	15	15	nil	2	nil	60		

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

Nature of work	M/c line No.	Section 110		Section 111		Prosecutions		M/c line No.
		No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions	
(1) Wearing Apparel— Making, etc.	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Paper bags	13	10	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	13
	33	1	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	33
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	70	11	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	70

SECTION F.

(see also page 3)

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases

		Cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Deaths
Measles	....	4	0	0
Pneumonia	....	4	1	0
Scarlet Fever	....	42	6	0
Dysentery	....	71	8	0

Tuberculosis.

Four new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year.

MALES		FEMALES	
Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.
3	1	0	0

There was one death from this disease.

During the year the voluntary scheme for the vaccination of susceptible children of school leaving age against tuberculosis (with B.C.G. vaccine) was continued by arrangement between the Essex County Council and the Medical Research Council.

Diphtheria.

No cases were notified during the year.

Vaccination and Immunisation Schemes.

(1) **Smallpox.** 63 primary vaccinations were performed, and 14 persons were re-vaccinated—a satisfactory increase on the previous year's figures (45 primary vaccinations and 8 re-vaccinations).

(2) Diphtheria. Immunisation against diphtheria has also increased, 96 immunisations and 33 re-inforcing injections having been given during the year, compared with 59 and 20 in the previous year.

(3) Whooping Cough. Immunisation against this disease was introduced by the Local Health Authority in 1953 for the first time. 52 children completed the course of injections during 1954.

(4) Tuberculosis. Results of the B.C.G. vaccination of school children (13 years) during the year are given below :—

Number of school children to whom B.C.G.						
Vaccination was offered during the year	....					27
Number of school children undergoing tuberculin						
test after parents consent had been received						23
Positive result	....	....	....	....		2
Negative result		....	....	....		21
Number of children who received B.C.G.	....					20
Number of cases of post-vaccination complica-						
tions	....	....	....	....	....	nil

Food Poisoning.

Only one case, a boy aged 6 months (Salmonella derby infection) was notified during the year.

Some Notifiable Diseases during the last five years

Disease	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Scarlet fever	6	4	17	8	42
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Primary Pneumonia	8	7	9	8	4
Erysipelas	1	1	2	0	0
Puerperal Fever & Pyrexia	0	0	2	1	0
Measles	23	184	115	123	4
Whooping Cough ...	21	50	2	16	0

